

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

Approved For Release 2001/09/04 : CIA-RDP83-00531R000100080009-3

OC-M78-545

26 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: OC Executive Board Members

FROM : [REDACTED]
Director of Communications

SUBJECT : Agenda for OC Executive Board - August 1978 (U)

(C) The OC Executive Board is scheduled to meet 1 August 1978 (Tuesday) at 1000 hours in the D/CO Conference Room. The agenda will consist of the following items:

1. Report From Ops & Engineering on OSO Memorandum of Agreement
2. Honor & Awards (Attachment A - DDA 78-2701)
3. Opportunities for the Handicapped in OC (Attachment B - MFR)

Atts:

- A. DDA 78-2701
- B. MFR

Distribution:

- 1 - D/CO w/atts.
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CL BY 015556

DDA 78-2701

10 July 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Communications
Director of Data Processing
Director of Finance
Director of Logistics
Director of Medical Services
Director of Personnel
Director of Security
Director of Training

FROM: John F. Blake
Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT: Honors and Awards

1. I recently reviewed a recommendation to award a retired employee a Certificate of Distinction. I was extremely impressed with this particular employee's accomplishments after having read the "Description of Performance" which was the backup paper to the recommendation. It struck me the case could be a very deserving one for a Career Intelligence Medal.

2. In a conversation with a representative of the sponsoring office I gained the impression that a matter of considerable weight in making the recommendation for the Certificate of Distinction as opposed to the Career Intelligence Medal was the individual's grade. In this particular case the grade was GS-13.

STATINTL 3. This experience has caused me to wonder how equitable throughout the Directorate are we in formulating recommendations for the various series of awards the Agency has. I have asked [REDACTED] to undertake a brief informal survey, as time allows, during the course of which he or someone from his office will be in touch with a representative of your office. When the results are in we will have a general discussion of this matter and see if any Directorate-wide policies should be established.

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STATINTL

[REDACTED]
John F. Blake

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SUBJECT: Opportunities for the handicapped in the Office of Communications (OC)

Opticon, is available which allows a blind person to scan a written page, essentially reading the tactile images felt by his fingers. Readout devices which use artificially-generated speech are also becoming available and could be used in place of many visual digital displays. Prosthetic devices available today permit many who have lost a limb to perform most, if not all, functions which can be performed by any other worker.

5. (U) There are, of course, specific problems to be dealt with in providing wider opportunities for the handicapped in OC. These include not only technical and physical limitations but possible limitations on any overseas duty imposed by OMS. Some of these technical and physical limitations may be easily overcome, while solutions for others may be complex or illusive. For instance, it is very difficult to imagine a deaf or blind person becoming a radio operator in OC. Yet, there may be aids available or planned which would make this possible, at least to a limited extent. Attachment 2 illustrates representative problems and possible solutions. Some of the solutions may seem "far fetched." Nevertheless, it is believed that the possibilities for handicapped workers in OC should be seriously considered, and this memorandum is intended to raise the issue and to stimulate discussion on this important subject.

STATINTL

Attachments:

1. Chart
2. Problems & Solutions

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1 - OC-PS Chrono (MFR)

STATINTL ORIG:OC-PS/

(5 June 1978)

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